

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's Attorney Paul D. Greeley (Reg. No. 30,019) on October 29, 2008.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 9, 12, 16, and 32-35 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 11, 13, 31, and 41-43 have been amended as follow:

1. (currently amended) A computing device comprising:
a receiver and transmitter,
the receiver being arranged to receive a plurality of data requests from a plurality of data-receiving applications, and also to receive data from a store, wherein said plurality of data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group, and
the transmitter being arranged to transmit data to said store and to transmit received-data received from said store to said data-receiving applications,
further, said computing device being arranged to:
process data requests received by said receiver from said data-receiving applications,

identify said received data requests as belonging to the group by reading the group identity from the data requests,

evaluate said data requests, said evaluation comprises one of the following:

- i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;
- ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;
- iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and
- iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

produce a single request for the data requests within said request group and generated by said evaluation, and

cause said transmitter to transmit said single request to said data-store and further to receive data from said data-store, process said received-data and to transmit said received data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications.

11. (currently amended) A method of requesting data comprising:

receiving a plurality of data requests from a plurality of data-receiving applications,

wherein said plurality of data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group,

evaluating said requests, said evaluation comprises one of the following:

- i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;
- ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;
- iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and
- iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

identifying said received data requests as belonging to the request group by reading the group identity from the data requests,

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producing a single request for data, to a store, for said request group generated by said evaluation,
receiving received-data in response to said single request from said store,
processing said received-data, and
sending said received-data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications.

13. (currently amended) A system comprising:

at least two data-receiving applications running on one or more data-receiving devices,
each data-receiving application being capable of requesting and receiving data,
a data-processor and a data store connected to said data-receiving applications via said data-processor,

said data-processor being arranged to:

receive a plurality of data-requests from said data-receiving applications, wherein
said plurality of data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group,

identify said received data requests as belonging to the group by reading the group identity from the data requests,

evaluate said data-requests said evaluation comprises one of the following:

i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;

ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;

iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and

iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

send a single request for the data-requests within said request group to said data store,

receive data from said data store, in response to said single request,
process said received data, and

distribute said received data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications.

31. (currently amended) A method of delivering and receiving data to and from two or more data-receiving applications running on one or more data-receiving devices, said method comprising:

receiving a plurality of data requests from said data-receiving applications using a data-processor, wherein said plurality of data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group,

evaluating said data requests, said evaluation comprises one of the following:

- i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;
- ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;
- iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and
- iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

determining a data-request as belonging to the request group by reading the group identity from the plurality of data requests,

sending a single request to a data store from the data-processor,

processing data received from said data store in response to said single request using said data-processor, and

distributing said received data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications.

41. (currently amended) A computing device which comprises a receiver and transmitter,

the receiver being arranged to receive a plurality of data requests from a plurality of data-receiving applications, and also to receive data from a store, wherein said plurality of

data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group, and the transmitter being arranged to transmit data to said store and to transmit received-data received from said store to said data-receiving applications, further, said processor being arranged to

process requests for data received by said receiver from said data-receiving applications,

evaluate said requests said evaluation comprises one of the following:

- i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;
- ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;
- iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and
- iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

identify said received data requests as belonging to the group by reading the group identity from the data requests,

produce a single request for the data-requests within said request group and generated by said evaluation,

cause said transmitter to transmit said single request to said store, receive data from said store,

process said received-data, and

transmit said received data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications,

wherein said computing device is further arranged such that said evaluation comprises one of:

postponing sending said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;

sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;

monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the computing device has received sufficient data to create said single request from data-requests made thereto; and
merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request comprising at least portions of said data-requests.

42. (currently amended) A processing means comprising:

a receiver and transmitting means,

the receiver being arranged to receive a plurality of data requests from a plurality of data-receiving applications,, and also to receive data from a storage means, wherein said plurality of data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group, and

the transmitting means being arranged to transmit data to said storage means and to transmit received-data received from said storage means to said data-receiving applications,

said processing means being further arranged to:

process data requests received by said receiver from said data-receiving applications, identify said received data requests as belonging to the group by reading the group identity from the plurality of data requests,

evaluate said data requests, said evaluation comprises one of the following:

i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;

ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;

iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and

iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

produce a single request for the data-requests within said request group and generated by said evaluation, and

cause said transmitting means to transmit said single request to said data storage means and further to receive data from said data storage means, process said received data and to transmit said received data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications.

43. (currently amended) A system comprising:

at least two data-receiving applications running on one or more data-receiving means, each data-receiving application being capable of requesting and receiving data, a data-processing means and a data-storage means connected to said data-receiving applications via said data-processing means,

said data-processing means being arranged to:

receive a plurality of data-requests from said data-receiving applications, wherein said plurality of data-receiving applications include a group identity in said plurality of data requests, thus indicating that said plurality of data requests form a request group,

evaluate said data-requests, said evaluation comprises one of the following:

i. stalling said single request until all requests within a request group have been received;

ii. sending said single request on receipt of the first request within a request group;

iii. merging data-requests received from said data-receiving applications such that said single request comprises a consolidated request; and

iv. monitoring requests within a request group and transmitting said single request when the processor has received sufficient data from said data-requests to create said single request,

identify said received data requests as belonging to the group by reading the group identity from the data requests,

send a single request for the data requests within said request group to said data-storage means,

receive data from said data-storage means, in response to said single request, process said received data, and

distribute said received data, or portions thereof, to at least one of said data-receiving applications.

ALLOW SUBJECT MATTER

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on June 16, 2008 and was interviewed on October 29, 2008.
2. Claims 1, 11, 13, 31, and 41-43 have been amended
3. Applicant amended claims 1, 11, 13, 31, 41-43, and cancelled claims 9, 12, 16, 32-35.
4. Claims 1-8, 10, 11, 13-15, 17-31, and 36-44 (currently renumbered as claims 1-37) are allowable over the prior art of record.
5. This communication warrants no examiner's reason for allowance, as applicant's reply makes evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as required by rule 37 CFR 1.104 (e). In this case, the substance of applicant's remarks in the Amendment filed on June 16, 2008 and further with the examiner's amendment (see attaches) point out the reason claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Thus, the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement for examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).
6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUOC NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-3919. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia Dollinger can be reached on 571-272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/PHUOC NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443